

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## REPRODUCTION OF LOST PARTS IN ARTICULATA.

To the Editors of the *Annals of Natural History*.

Hammersmith, 5th March 1847.

GENTLEMEN,—Will you kindly allow me to mention, for the information of some of your readers who may have been led (from Mr. Newport's observations in the March Number of the 'Annals') to suppose that I had quietly taken up a theory of his and passed it off as my own, that my remarks (to which he alludes) were made at a meeting of the Entomological Society when he himself was in the Chair, and that instead of applying to the spines and spurs of the tibiæ of the reproduced legs of an insect (such spines and spurs being articulated appendages of the limb), my observations referred to the membranous lobes of the femur, tibiæ and tarsus of the leg of a species of *Phasmidæ* in my own collection, such lobes being integral, and not articulated, portions of the joints? It was from this circumstance, in conjunction with Mr. Fortnum's observations, that I was led to believe that the limb of my specimen had been reproduced.

I shall not further notice Mr. Newport's observations than to state that the abnormally small size of a leg must necessarily be the result of retarded development in those species which have apodal larvæ, as must also the diminished size of the wing in any species. Illustrations of many such abnormalities will in due time be given to the public.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. O. WESTWOOD.

NOTE ON A BRITISH SPECIMEN OF *OCULINA PROLIFERA*.

For a considerable time that beautiful coral, *Oculina prolifera*, has been known, though not generally, to be a native of the Norwegian seas; but it is entirely to the Rev. Dr. Fleming that naturalists are indebted for the fact, that it is also a member of the British fauna: the fact however has never yet been so satisfactorily proved as to command an unqualified conviction. About twelve years ago a fine mass of this coral, measuring eleven inches in diameter, was presented to the Newcastle Museum by Mr. G. C. Atkinson, one of the Honorary Curators, who received it from a friend, with the statement that it had been brought up by the fishing-lines from deep water on the coast of Shetland; but so doubtful were the then officers of the Institution as to so tropical a form being a native of Britain (especially when there was a probability of its having been lost overboard from some foreign vessel, supposing that it had actually been fished up from where it was stated, and such like instances do occasionally occur; for example, a large specimen of *Gorgonia flabellum*, now in the museum, was brought up by the lines of the Cullercoats fishermen last year), that it was thought best not to